DOCUMENT RESUME

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TITLE	Training Program--Distar Reading I. Description of Teacher Inservice Education Materials.
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IDENTIFIERS	*Distar Reading Program

ABSTRACT

The described inservice teacher education materials are for the use of kindergarten and first-grade teachers who are learning to teach Distar Reading I. In-depth information is given on the Distar Reading program. The scope and sequencing of topics for the program are described and ordering information given. A description of the activities and resources involved in use of the inservice products is presented. Ordering information and a critique of the program are included. (JD)

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DESCRIPTION OF TEACHER IN-SERVICE EDUCATION MATERIALS

A. SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: TRAINING PROGRAM - DISTAR READING I

Publication Date(s): Copyright 1975, second edition

Intended Users: Teachers, preservice and inservice, who are learning to teach Distar Reading I

Grade Level(s): Predominantly kindergarten and first grade

Number: Individuals or groups

Primary Focus: Specific skills for teaching Distar Reading I are highlighted.

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School subject(s) and/or in-service topic(s) covered:

This material is a supplementary training program for teachers of Distar Reading I. It introduces basic understandings of Distar, and teaches specific teaching skills for presenting the first 160 lessons in the program. The material is highly structured, well programmed, and geared to the Distar Teacher's Guide. The program does not replace consultant and training services available from the publisher.

What participant does in using the materials:

The first two filmstrips are viewed in segments and questions in the study brochure are answered by the participants before moving on to the next segment. For the five remaining filmstrips, participants study the Teacher's Guide (not included with the kit), view the filmstrip, practice the teaching behavior, review skills presented in the filmstrip, and assess their own performance of teaching behaviors.

Resources:

Consultant services and leadership training are available to purchasers of Distar Reading, at the publisher's expense. The training kit may be used as a supplementary program by an individual or in a group. A filmstrip projector and a cassette tape player are needed. The teacher Presentation Book and Teacher's Guide may be obtained from the publisher.

Describer critique:

The training materials in the kit are consistent with Distar Reading I. These materials represent a fine example of a precise, specific, step-by-step training program for teachers, geared to a particular program--Distar Reading I.

Price Range: (TS) - (R) - comprehension

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B. IN-DEPTH INFORMATION

Title:	TRAINING PROGRAM - DISTAR READING I
Publication Date(s):	Copyright 1975 - second edition
Intended Users:	Teachers, preservice and inservice, who are learning to teach Distar Reading I
Grade Level(s):	Predominantly kindergarten and first grade
Number:	Individuals or groups
Primary Focus:	Specific skills for teaching Distar Reading I are highlighted.

1.0 PURPOSES:

The developers state:

" . . . It is based on the Teacher's Guide for Distar Reading I. The program has been designed as one more tool to help teachers present Distar Reading effectively.

The Training Program is not intended to replace the Teacher's Guide or to substitute for a training session where discussion and practice are led by a skilled trainer. It is a supplementary tool . . .

1. It enables you to see and hear how a group of children respond to Distar tasks when they have been well taught.

2. It gives a clear picture of how to execute the signals that ensure a unison response from a group of children.

3. It shows how skilled teachers pace the various tasks to maintain children's attention and promote effective learning."

Specific objectives are implied, though not listed as such, throughout the program. They include learning to group students, set up the classroom, and test for mastery. They also include teaching strategies, correcting response errors, and the teaching tasks for lessons one through 160.

2.0 CONTENT — Scope and Sequencing of Topics:

Seven major topics are covered, each in a separate filmstrip:

1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM: Unique Program Features, The Organization, Decoding Skills, Reading Vocabulary, Story Reading, Comprehension Skills, Additional Skills, The Materials.

2. IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM: Placement and Grouping, Setting up the Classroom, Rules for the Children, Teaching Strategies, General Correction Procedures, Correcting Response Errors, Mastery Tests, Practice Procedures.

3. PREREADING SKILLS I: Sounds Introduction, Sounds Firm-up, Stop Sounds, Say It Fast, Symbol-Action Game.

4. PREREADING SKILLS II: Say the Sounds, Sound It Out, Rhyming.

5. READING LESSONS 37-74: Reading Vocabulary, Story Reading, First Word, Next Word, Story Reading, Word Finding, Reading the Fast Way, Two-Line Stories, Reading Stop-Sound First Words, Reading the Fast Way.

6. READING LESSONS 75-106: Anwering Comprehension Questions, Sentence Reading --The Fast Way, Period Finding, Sentence Saying, Sounding Out Irregular Words, Quotation Finding, Individual Reading, Reading Words the Fast Way.

7. READING LESSONS 107-160: Reading the Fast Way, Reading the Title, Reading the Fast Way, World Build-Ups, Two-consonant Reading Vocabulary, Read the Item.

Topics must be dealt with in sequence by all participants.

3.0 ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES INVOLVED IN USE OF PRODUCT

3.1 Description of main in-service activities:

The seven sound filmstrips which make up the kit, and are supplementary to consultant assistance and training available from the publisher, may be used either by an individual or in a group. Participants view the first two filmstrips in segments and answer related questions. Filmstrips 3 to 7 are viewed in segments after related sections of the Teacher's Guide have been studied and "critical behavior and common teaching errors" have been reviewed. After viewing each filmstrip segment, participants practice the task, review, and rerun the task on the filmstrip.

3.2 Help given in use of product:

A cadre of 300 part-time and full-time consultants provide training, at the publisher's expense, to purchasers of Distar Reading materials.

Procedures for using the filmstrips and cassette sound recordings in the kit are explicitly spelled out in the brochure included in the kit.

The Teacher Presentation Book and the Teacher's Guide, both crucial to the training program, must be obtained separately from the kit.

4.0 EVALUATION OF TEACHER INSERVICE LEARNING

The training brochure contains questions for each segment of the first two filmstrips. These are to be answered before moving to the next segment. "You can find answers by going back in the filmstrip and accompanying cassette, or by checking the referenced pages in your Teacher's Guide."

After each teaching task in the remaining five filmstrips has been practiced, participants are directed to again review the critical behaviors and teaching errors described in the Guide, and to rerun the task on the filmstrip in order to compare their own performance with that modeled in the presentation.

5.0 ORDERING INFORMATION

5.1 Resources required/recommended:

A minimum of one day of training, provided by the publisher at no cost to participants, is recommended for Distar teachers prior to using the training program. Continued inservice under the direction of trained leaders is also available.

A filmstrip projector and cassette player, which may be used with an automatic changer or operated with an audible change signal, are required.

Teacher's Guides and Teacher Presentation Books are available from the publisher, either through purchase or loan, to trainees.

5.2 Distributor name/address:

Distar Reading
Science Research Associates, Inc.
259 East Erie Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611
(800) 621-6468 (toll free)

Donald Davidson
Distar Product Director
Donna Granite
National Lead Consultant

5.3 Components/approximate costs:

Component	Purchase	Rental	No. Req.	Reusable
Training Program: Distar Reading I	$115.00	No	1	Yes

Preview copies are available from program headquarters or from regional offices:

John Plastas
Eastern Area Manager
PO Box 10
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
(201) 329-1220

John Chapel
Northern Area Manager
2590 Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
(312) 827-5524

John Virden
Southern Area Manager
PO Box 2150
Atlanta, Georgia 30301
(404) 266-9159

Dr. Norman Watkins
Western Area Manager
1540 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, California 94304
(415) 493-4700

This product includes:
Training Kit
seven filmstrips and cassettes,
Training Brochure

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6.0 HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT

6.1 Identification of the developer:

Distar Reading was developed out of the teaching programs carried out in the 1960's at the University of Illinois by Bereiter and Englemann.

The Training Program was developed for Science Research Associates by Linda Meyers.

6.2 How developed and when:

Linda Meyers worked with Bereiter and Englemann at the University of Illinois. She has trained teachers in Distar Reading for approximately ten years. The Training Kit is based on procedures and activities which she and numerous other consultants have found to be successful.

6.3 Evidence of effectiveness with users:

Evidence of effectiveness of the Training Kit is not available. Research reports on Distar Reading are available through the publisher.

C. DESCRIBER CRITIQUE

Appropriateness / adaptability / technical quality:

The training program for teachers is highly consistent with the instructional approach of Distar Reading. Learning tasks are broken into very small units; directions are precise and specific.

The program is geared to Distar and has little use for other purposes--except as an example of a well developed, programmed teacher training package.

The technical quality is good. The photographs are attractive, the sound is clear and pleasant. Both visuals and audio are characterized by sameness.

Content accuracy/social fairness/community acceptance issues:

Acceptance of the program is contingent on acceptance of the highly structured, programmed techniques of Distar.

An obvious effort has been made to represent various ethnic groups of students and teachers. No male teachers are included in the filmstrip.

Overall summary/comment:

As a supplementary training program for teachers of Distar Reading, the kit is an exceptionally useful tool.